**Italian Peninsula Alps**

**Med. Sea**

**Rome Latium Plain**

**Tiber River**

**Appian Way**

**Sardinia Sicily, Egypt and Africa, SpainM**editer. Region

1. Location of Rome? What continent? On what body of water? (Our World)

Rome is located on the Italian peninsula on the continent of Europe, on the Mediterranean Sea.

1. Features of the land and of the soil of the Latium Plain? (Our World)

The Italian peninsula has rich farmland. Down the center run the Apennine Mountains, which makes travel across the peninsula difficult. The Latium Plain is located on the west coast of the peninsula. It has rich soil, and is surrounded by inactive volcanoes.

1. Plants that thrive (do well there)? (Our World) Plants that do well on the Latium Plain are wheat, beans, cabbage, lettuce, and fruits, such as grapes.
2. What was a key “cash crop” or commodity traded by the Romans? (Our World) Grapes grow especially well. Grapes are fermented to make wine.

Wine is the chief cash crop of Italy.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Our World Questions & Questions on Peter Temin’s Article**

1. (Our World, page 219 ) What are the Alps? How did they protect the Italian peninsula from invaders? The Alps are the mountain chain that separate the Italian peninsula from Europe. It acts as a wall to prevent invaders from entering. The dangers of crossing the Alps caused invading armies to “think twice” before invading.
2. (Our World, page 219 ) What is the Tiber River? Besides being a source of water, how might the river had helped the Roman economy?

The Tiber River was the river that flowed through Rome and the Latium Plain. It was used as a trading route.

1. (Our World, page 220) In Greece, each city-state’s acropolis was used as a place to retreat to during invasions. How many hills does Rome have that were used, also, for defensive purposes? Rome is built on seven hills. They were used for defensive purposes, just like in Ancient Greece.
2. (Our World, page 238) Who built Rome’s roads, and what purpose would the roads have had in trade and in military conquest? Rome’s soldiers built the roads. Roads are a key tool used by armies and by anyone trading or moving a large number of goods.
3. (Our World, page 70, page 238 and 239) What is an aqueduct, and why were aqueducts important in the expansion or enlargement of the Roman Empire?

An aqueduct channels water from place to place—ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO EXPAND YOUR CIVILIZATION.

SEE ANNOTATIONS ON ACTUAL ESSAY.

6. What were the features of Rome in 100 A.D. that made it “more civilized”

than Europe in 1800? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…”) The features of Rome in 100 A.D. that made it more civilized were paved streets, a sewer system, fire protection, and a coin currency.

1. Throughout what overall region did Roman trade spread? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…”)

Roman trade spread throughout the Mediterranean Region.

1. Who had most of the wealth in Rome? (Peter Temin’s “The

Economy of…”) Senators and knights had the most wealth in Rome.

1. Who was in the Roman middle class? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…”) In the middle class were tradesmen, craftsmen, and service workers.
2. Who was at the bottom of the Roman “social ladder”? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of …”) At the bottom of the “social ladder” or “social pyramid” were farm workers—both free and slave.
3. **Where did Rome get its grain? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…” )**

**Rome got its grain from Sardinia, Sicily, Egypt and Africa.**

1. Where did Rome get its olive oil? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy…”)

**Olive oil was exported to Rome from Spain and Africa. So, it was imported from Spain and Africa.**

1. How were people paid in Rome? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…”)

In Rome, people were paid in money. The name of the coin used was called the denarius. Sometimes people were paid “in kind”—with food or products.

1. What did Roman soldiers do? (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…”)

According to Temin, “**When the army was not fighting….** **soldiers often built roads and public monuments….”**

1. Name at least five technological improvements of the Romans (Peter Temin’s “The Economy of…”)

Technological improvements of the Romans included the Roman arch, elaborate temples and baths, **aqueducts for water supply, theaters, water power to run grain mills, not to mention sewage systems, fire protection, paved streets, and a common coin currency.**

1. How would Rome’s strong government have been helpful to promoting wealth and business activity? If the government can protect its large and growing civilization with laws and military presence, then it can “afford” to grow.